



Center for Geospatial Information Technology

FY22 Broadband Data Collection Q&A

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Introduction to the Collection Process

- Historical Data - Collected at Census block level (FCC 477)
- Future FCC Changes - To be collected at Address level (FCC Third Order released 1/19/21)
- Current VA submission process is derived from FCC Third Order and legislated by VA Budget Bill (April '21)
- Provider's responsibility to ensure their data is correct. Incorrect submissions could drive unneeded future work for providers having to answer to a public challenge process.
- Data must be submitted via Submission Portal only during submission window(s) - emails or other methods of submission will not be accepted



FY22 Data Collection Timeline

- Oct 1-15, 2021: Public comment period on [submission guidelines](#)
- Nov 15 - Dec 22, 2021: [Broadband Data Submission Portal](#) open for submissions
- Jan 3 - Jan 7, 2022: Submission Portal reopened for submission corrections
- Jan 14, 2022: “[2021 Virginia Broadband Data Preview](#)” map produced from data collection
- Feb 14-18, 2022: Portal reopened for initial submissions
- Feb 19-25, 2022: Portal open for submission corrections, **NOT initial submissions**
- Apr 1, 2022: Target release date of new Virginia Broadband Mapping Tool



Data Collection Results and Challenges

- Current Collection Statistics and Challenges
 - 42 out of 114 providers submitted data via the Portal (37%)
 - 25/3 service reported for 3,096,617 addresses (82%); this may be inflated with polygon submittals instead of address points
 - Submission portal opened on Nov 15th; first submission was Dec 7th
 - Many first submissions were just repeated 477 data - providers did not review submission instructions which resulted in an incorrect submission
- [Map review](#) (Beta)

CSV Technical Guidelines Highlights

- Preferred file format is CSV (comma delimited text file)
 - VGIN ADDRESS_POINT_ID was selected as a unique identifier for all address points located in the Commonwealth (this is state maintained and updated quarterly)
 - If using Microsoft Excel you will need to make sure that the ADDRESS_POINT_ID column is formatted as “text” to prevent auto scientific notation conversion (e.g. 3.12374E+11)
- Full address may be provided instead of VGIN ADDRESS_POINT_ID
 - Leave ADDRESS_POINT_ID as “0” if using full address and zip code
 - Full address must be provided in 2 separate columns with headers:
 - FULLADDR
 - ZIP_5
- **Incorrect column headers will result in an automatic rejection of the CSV submitted**



GIS Technical Guidelines Highlights

- For GIS Shapefiles
 - Shapefiles should be points. If utilizing polygons they should have single unique identifiers and be closed and non-overlapping. They should only cover addresses with coverage available.
 - If a polygon is submitted it is assumed that all addresses contained within that polygon will have services available as indicated by the polygon attribute data.
- The shapefiles must include .shp, .shx, .dbf, and .prj files (with corresponding attribute tables that contain headers similar to the .csv)

Data Submission Process - Home Page

ABOUT HOUSING BUSINESSES **VIRGINIA DHCD** COMMUNITIES CODES RESOURCES

BROADBAND PROVIDER DATA SUBMISSION
PORTAL FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

HOME **SUBMIT DATA** ABOUT SUPPORT

COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT VIRGINIA TECH
CENTER FOR GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Center for Geospatial Information Technology at Virginia Tech (CGIT) is assisting the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) in the data collection process and creation of the new Virginia broadband availability map.

? ABOUT & SUPPORT
DHCD is leading the effort to collect data that will be used for a new statewide broadband availability map. This collection was directed by Section P of Item 114 of Chapter 552, 2021 Acts.

GLOBE SUBMISSION PROCESS

✓ DATA SUBMISSION GUIDELINES
Pursuant to budget bill language, broadband providers shall be required to submit updated service territory data to the Department annually. Service territory data includes where the provider



Data Submission Process - Provider Info


PROVIDER FILER IDENTIFICATION AND DATA UPLOAD

[HOME](#)[SUBMIT DATA](#)[ABOUT](#)[SUPPORT](#)

Provider Data Privacy

Information submitted by a broadband provider shall be excluded from the requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.). Information submitted by a broadband provider pursuant to this section shall be used solely for the purposes stated in Section P of Item 114 of Chapter 552, 2021 Acts of Assembly, 2021

[READ MORE](#)

 The Information You Submit will be associated with the submitted data and will be used as the primary contact for submission statuses.

Broadband Provider Information

Company Name *

Holding Company/Common Control Name

Company website *

* Indicates required field

Your (Submitter) Information

Name *

Title *

Phone Number *

Extension

E-Mail Address *

Data Submission Process - File Upload

File Manager

The File Manager will verify that the correct files will be uploaded securely to DHCD's servers. Your files will not be shared publicly and will be stored securely on DHCD's servers only. For specificity of what files or the data in those files can be found above or click below for more information.

Submission Guidelines

READ MORE 

CSV and GIS Instructions

READ MORE 



Upload files for submission


+ ADD FILES

Click [SUBMIT DATA](#) below to submit this form and all uploaded files.



Ready to Submit?

Please verify the files in the File Manager are correct and complete before clicking below to submit the files to DHCD's servers.

SUBMIT DATA 

Data Submission Process - File Upload

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[Submission Guidelines](#)[CSV and GIS Instructions](#)

[DOWNLOAD](#)[DOWNLOAD](#)

Upload files for submission

+ Add Files

example1.shp File Upload Successful	5000 mb		X Remove
example1.shx File Upload Successful	2 mb		X Remove
example1.dbf File Upload Successful	1000 mb		X Remove
example1.prj File Upload Successful	1 mb		X Remove
example1.shn File Upload Successful	1 mb		X Remove
example1.sbx File Upload Successful	1 mb		X Remove
example1.xml File Upload Successful	1 mb		X Remove
example1.cpg File Upload Successful	1 mb		X Remove
badexample.png FILE TYPE NOT SUPPORTED	0 mb		X Remove

Click SUBMIT DATA below to submit form and all uploaded files.



Ready to Submit?

Please verify the files in the File Manager are correct and complete before clicking below to submit the files to DHCD's servers.

SUBMIT DATA

Data Submission Process - Submission Received

PROVIDER DATA SUBMISSION HAS BEEN RECEIVED


[ABOUT & SUPPORT](#)[HOME](#)[SUBMIT DATA](#)

What's Next?

Thank you for submitting your coverage data. It will remain private and secure on DHCD's servers. No information will not be shared with the public or other providers. You should receive an email at the address you provided indicating the submission status.

The first email you will receive will indicate a successful data submission that has passed our initial automated file check and verification and has been accepted. If any issues arise during processing, you will receive an email from DHCD explaining the error(s) with additional information to resolve them. In the case of successful processing, you will receive an additional email informing you that your submission has been processed and that no further action will be required.

The data you submit to us will be used to enhance the reporting of broadband coverage in the commonwealth at the census block level, locality level, legislative district level, etc.

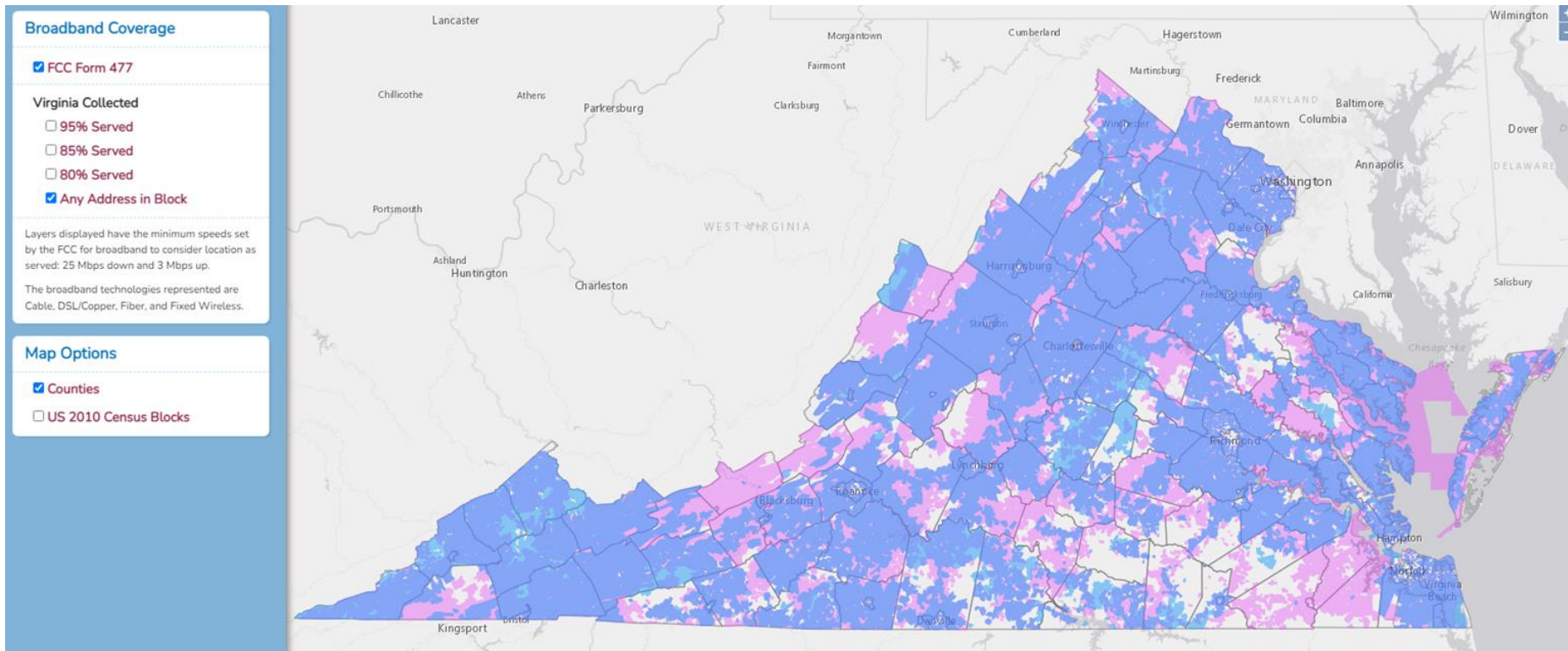




For Help: broadband@dhcd.virginia.gov

[Privacy Policy](#)

Backup Slide: 477 vs. New Collection (any address)



Broadband Coverage

☒ FCC Form 477

Virginia Collected

☒ 95% Served

☐ 85% Served

☐ 80% Served

☒ Any Address in Block

Layers displayed have the minimum speeds set by the FCC for broadband to consider location as served: 25 Mbps down and 3 Mbps up.

The broadband technologies represented are Cable, DSL/Copper, Fiber, and Fixed Wireless.

Map Options

☒ Counties

☐ US 2010 Census Blocks